

Policy and Procedure	Date Issued 2008	Section WIsar Choice	Policy Number WC-007	Page 1
Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division  SAIL	Date Revised 12/6/11	Subject: Children in AODA Residential Treatment		

## 1. POLICY:

Milwaukee County Behavioral Health Division (BHD) recognizes the importance of families in relation to an individual's recovery, particularly in regard to women. It is the expectation of BHD that children will reside with their mother in AODA residential treatment when appropriate. The placement of children with their mother in a residential treatment facility must be both safe for the child and beneficial to the mother's recovery. All options regarding residency of the child should be considered by the Recovery Support Team and an informed decision should be made regarding placement of the child with the mother in residential treatment.

## 2. PROCEDURE:

A client must be TANF verified in order for child placement to be considered. Children will be placed in compliance with State/County contract placement priorities.

1. BHD funded children placed in AODA residential treatment **WILL** count against the agency's current BHD designated cap.
2. The CIU will not authorize the placement of children in AODA Residential Treatment.
3. However, if the client is potentially TANF eligible, screeners should review with the client the questions that are in the attached addendum and fax responses to the residential waitlist fax at 414-257-5472.
4. The client should be informed during the intake process that placement of children is not guaranteed and the request will be reviewed by BHD with the information provided. If children are identified as needing placement, the CIU screeners will notify:
  - Residential Waitlist Manager and/or AODA Administrative Coordinator via fax, 414-257-5472.
  - The assigned RSC supervisor
5. Clients should be informed that AODA residential treatment is a short term, intensive treatment program focused on stabilizing the client and transitioning them to the least restrictive level of care, with the goal of being reintegrated into the community.
6. If the Bureau of Milwaukee Child Welfare (BMCW) is involved, BHD and BMCW will collaborate on funding for the client and/or children.
7. When pregnant women or women with children enter residential placement, the AODA residential treatment provider and the Recovery Support Team must **immediately** address discharge planning (i.e.: housing issues, child placement and childcare, etc.).

There are different scenarios in which children may be placed in AODA residential treatment with their mothers. They are as follows:

1. A client's child is born while the client is in AODA residential treatment
  - The team will review the questionnaire and consider all placement options for the child.
  - The team will submit the form titled SAR To Add Children To Residential Treatment Authorizations directly to BHD.
  - The residential treatment provider will notify the RSC when the child is born.
2. A child/children need to be placed after the client is admitted to AODA residential treatment.

### **In a non-emergency placement situation:**

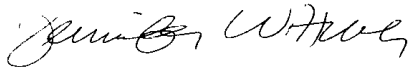
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- The team will make a unified decision to request approval for the placement.
- A SAR will be submitted to BHD by the RSC.
- If the SAR is approved by BHD, the child(ren) will be added to the client's authorization within the BHD MIS.

**In an emergency placement situation:**

- The AODA residential treatment provider shall contact the Program Manager, Integrated Service Manager, or one of the Administrative Coordinators for verbal authorization.
- If approved by BHD, the AODA residential treatment provider will submit a SAR directly to BHD.
- The AODA residential treatment provider will notify the RSC of the placement with details of each child (i.e. dob, full names, etc.)

APPROVED BY:




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